



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106-1658

House Bill 5895
An Act Establishing a Sick Leave Bank for Municipal First Responders

House Bill 5904
An Act Concerning a Sick Leave Bank for Municipal First Responders

Government Administration and Elections Committee
February 22, 2013

The Department of Administrative Services ("DAS") offers the following testimony regarding House Bill 5895, "An Act Establishing a Sick Leave Bank for Municipal First Responders" and House Bill 5904, "An Act Concerning a Sick Leave Bank for Municipal First Responders."

HB 5895 and HB 5904 would require DAS to create a sick leave bank for municipal firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel who have exhausted their sick leave benefits, using the state's and legislative branch's sick leave banks as models. Although DAS has a role in administering the managerial sick leave bank for State executive branch managers, DAS is concerned that it does not have the information or resources necessary to accomplish this mandate. In particular, DAS does not have information about or access to the wages and sick leave accruals earned by first responders in the various municipalities. Similarly, DAS does not have any authority to establish or enforce personnel policies for municipal employees or bargain with the various collective bargaining agents that represent such employees. Should these proposals move forward, DAS would like to meet with the proponents to discuss these issues.

Thank you for your consideration of DAS's views regarding these bills. Please feel free to contact Terrence Tulloch-Reid if you have any questions.